

Amendments to the Drawings

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.121(d)(1), attached hereto is one annotated sheet depicting changes made to drawing Figure 7. The attached Figure 7 has been amended to add the lead lines and reference characters associated with elements 102b and 102c.

Also attached hereto is one replacement sheet of drawings, incorporating the changes made to Figure 7, which replaces the drawing sheet originally submitted with the application.

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 10, 12, and 20 and drawing Figure 7 have been amended. Claims 1-3, 5-17, and 20-22 remain pending in the application, with claims 2 and 15 previously withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. Claims 1 and 20 are independent. The objections and rejections are respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

The claims have been amended to overcome each of the grounds of objection and to more fully comply with U.S. practice. Drawing Figure 7 has been amended as described above in the "Amendments to the Drawings" section.

Claim 1 has also been amended to define an embodiment of the invention in which "the second glue reservoir [is] configured as four glue subreservoirs each including therein a gas cushion" and the "third glue reservoir [is] configured as two glue subreservoirs." Claim 20 has been amended in a similar manner. Support for the instant recitations is found in the paragraph bridging specification pages 8 and 9, and in Figure 7.

Entry of each of the amendments is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) - Kunkel

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-11, 14, and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,420,510 to Kunkel et al. (hereinafter "Kunkel").¹

The rejection under § 102(b) based on Kunkel is respectfully deemed to be obviated. For at least the following reasons, the disclosure of Kunkel does not anticipate Applicants' presently claimed invention.

As indicated above in the introductory remarks, instant claim 1 defines an embodiment of the apparatus in which "the second glue reservoir [is] configured as four glue subreservoirs each including therein a gas cushion" and the "third glue reservoir [is] configured as two glue subreservoirs." See Applicants' Figure 7. The subreservoirs 102 a-d are equipped with gas cushions. The gas cushions serve as additional pressure reservoirs for the second glue reservoirs 102 a-d (see the disclosure beginning at specification page 8, last line). One advantage of Applicants' claimed gluing apparatus, including the feature of the subreservoirs being equipped with gas cushions, is that the majority or even the entire volume of the glue in the second glue reservoir 102 can be made available (see specification page 9, first paragraph). Thus, the aforementioned structural feature of

¹ Claims 20-22 are not listed in the statement of the rejection at Office Action numbered paragraph 4. However, in view of the grounds of rejection presented at the bottom of Office Action page 5, Applicants presume that the examiner intended to include claims 20-22 in the rejection based on Kunkel.

Applicants' claimed invention is beneficial in that it helps to save glue, i.e., it enables using most all of the glue that is in the apparatus.

Kunkel's "Method for Applying a Foamed Adhesive" is structurally and functionally different from Applicants' presently claimed invention. Kunkel discloses a method and a device for uniformly applying a foamed adhesive to a moving substrate (column 1, lines 6-8). Kunkel's device has a first glue reservoir (tank 10), a second glue reservoir (member 100), a third glue reservoir (foamer 37), pressure sensors (28, 32), and a three-way valve (22). However, Kunkel fails to disclose, *inter alia*, Applicants' above-described second and third glue reservoir features.

Since Kunkel does not meet each feature of the claimed invention, Kunkel does not anticipate the invention defined by Applicants' instant claim 1. Claims 3, 5, 7-11, 14, and 16 are allowable because they depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1, and for the subject matter recited therein. Claim 20 has been amended in a manner similar to that of claim 1. Claims 21 and 22 are allowable because they depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 20, and for the subject matter recited therein.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) - Kunkel

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kunkel.

The rejection of claim 6 under § 103(a) based on Kunkel is also respectfully deemed to be obviated. Claim 6 depends indirectly from claim 1. Claim 1 is allowable over Kunkel for at least the reasons outlined above in response to the rejection under § 102(b). Claim 6 is allowable because it depends from claim 1, and for the subject matter recited therein.

Furthermore, there is simply no teaching in Kunkel that would have led one to modify the reference in a way that would produce the invention defined by any of Applicants' pending claims.

The rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kunkel in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,687,137 to Boger, and the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kunkel in view of Boger and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,965,860 to Cone, are similarly deemed to be obviated. Regardless of what Boger and Cone may disclose, neither reference rectifies any of the above-described deficiencies of Kunkel.

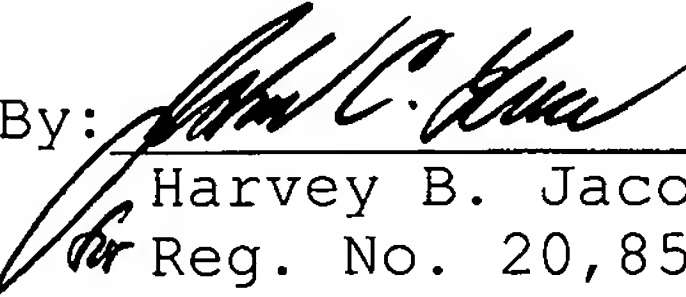
In view of the foregoing, this application is now in condition for allowance. If the examiner believes that an

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/524,264
Atty. Docket No.: P70223US0

interview might expedite prosecution, the examiner is invited to
contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 26, 2009

Annotated Sheet

Fig. 7

